



Conservative contradictions

Second ex-MLA claims expense accounts were of a 'use it or lose it' nature; ex-speaker disagrees

PAUL MCLEOD

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At least one former Tory MLA is backing up Len Goucher.

On Tuesday, the former member for Bedford-Birch Cove said MLAs were encouraged to max out their taxpayer-funded expense accounts, saying "we were urged to use it or lose it."

Goucher was the top

spender identified in the recently released MLA expense report.

Former cabinet minister Mark Parent told Metro yesterday he recalls hearing that sentiment in a formal setting.

"It was at the caucus table," Parent said.

"I remember it coming not from the speaker directly, but coming from another member ... who had had experience as a speaker."

At that time the former speakers were Cecil Clarke and Murray Scott. Alfie MacLeod was the sitting speaker.

Parent said the "advice" referred to the MLA technology fund, a \$2,500 yearly pot that cut off on Dec. 31 each year.

Expense documents show MLAs spent the most in December — \$270,000 total from 2006 to 2009. In contrast, only \$35,000 was

spent in January.

Clarke said he did provide clarification to colleagues on the deadline, but strongly rejected the idea anyone encouraged MLAs to exhaust their allowances.

"That may be (Goucher's) interpretation, but no one was ever told to go and buy things because they should have

them," he said. "People were told (the fund) was there to buy things if you needed them to run an office."

Clarke said he believes there's a natural spike of expenses in December because MLAs hold off throughout the year in case unexpected costs pop up.

"For anyone to suggest that

there was a culture of 'use it or lose it' that's erroneous," he said.

"Basically the technology (fund) was to deal with what are your needs, and you should be buying to your needs, not your wants."

The allowance was originally supposed to be for one year, but the Internal Economy Board never got around to eliminating it until this fall.

News on the Move

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Local pg 4

CUPE backs Feb. holiday

Vancouver Games

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage throughout the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

• Today — Patrick Chan faces long odds to reach figure skating podium, page 13



On the web

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Snowboarder doing it for all the right reasons

OLYMPICS Sarah Conrad didn't start snowboarding because she wanted to be an Olympian. She was just a skateboarder who wanted something to do in the winter.

"The Olympics, I don't think that's why anyone starts a sport, or at least why you should start a sport," she says. "You do it because it's fun, you're active. The Olympics are what happens after you decide whether to take it seriously."

The 25-year-old half-pipe rider from Dartmouth first hit the slopes at Mar-tock in 1998 with her twin brother Jonathan and has taken it seriously ever since. The sport has now taken her to two Winter Olympics, and she will be on Cypress Mountain in Vancouver today for her qualification run at 4:30 p.m. The semifinals are at 8:30 p.m. and the final at 10 p.m.

"We used to ski for years, and snowboarding was the new, cool thing back in 1998," she says. "I

started competing right after that. The first contest I went in, I won. I was like, 'Man, that's pretty cool.' So I just started doing more competitions."

Straying farther and farther from home, Conrad has travelled all over the world to pursue her career. But her final destination has always been Vancouver, even when she surprised herself and qualified for the 2006 Olympics.

"That was really just a bonus Games," says Conrad, who placed 15th in Turin, Italy. "I wasn't expecting to go."

Conrad, who plans to compete for one more year before going to university, is a self-described "dark horse" at the Games. She says she "isn't really considered medal potential" and just wants to land her run. Most of all, she'll savour the experience.

"Snowboarding is fun for me ... And it all comes down to having fun," she says.

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO HALIFAX



Sarah Conrad



Celebrating Silver

Marianne St-Gelais of St-Felicien, Que., celebrates after winning a silver medal in the women's 500-metre short-track speedskating event last night. St-Gelais was second only to Chinese powerhouse Wang Meng. Jessica Gregg of Edmonton finished fourth in the same race.

More Olympic coverage, pages 13 and 14



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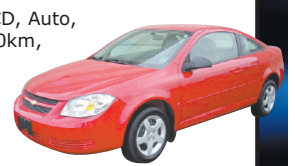
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Bail hearing delayed for accused killer

COURT It will be another three weeks before it's decided whether a 22-year-old Dartmouth woman accused of first-degree murder in the killing of Jennifer Horne will receive bail.

A scheduled bail hearing for Ashley Haley yesterday was delayed at Nova Scotia Supreme Court in Halifax after her defence lawyer asked and was successfully granted a delay until March 12.

"We feel that this is yet another delay tactic by the defendant, in this never-ending series of court appearances," Steve

Andrews, Horne's step-uncle, said in a family statement.

"When the horrendous facts of this case are known, it will be obvious to all that today's decision by the court has been a travesty."

Haley and her common-law partner Desmond Maguire are each facing first-degree murder charges in the death of Horne, a 20-year-old Cole Harbour woman found dead in their apartment on Dec. 31, 2007.

Both Haley and Maguire have been in jail since being arrested. The Crown is opposed to Haley's release.

A trial for both is scheduled for later this year.



Jennifer Horne

Untaxed bonuses pursued

Speaker's office trying to find extra payments to staff of MLAs

PAUL MCLEOD
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The Speaker's office is trying to track down about \$600,000 in potentially untaxed bonuses paid by MLAs to their staff.

Auditor general Jacques Lapointe's expense report showed MLAs were able to go through their expense accounts or the Speaker's office to make payments to constituency assistants such as bonuses or hire summer interns.

But no T4 forms were issued and no mandatory deductions for things like employment insurance and the Canada Pension Plan were made. It's unknown if staff members claimed the money as income and paid the necessary taxes. Lapointe concluded the province could be on the hook for overdue payroll deductions.

Yesterday, Speaker Charlie Parker said his office has contacted all three parties in an attempt to track down staff members and issue them T4 slips. Parker wouldn't say who paid what, saying that's up to individual MLAs to reveal.

"It's an employee-employer relationship and some pretty sensitive information, I believe, on who they had hired, what they paid them and so on,"



House Speaker Charlie Parker speaks to reporters at Province House yesterday. Parker gave information about payments to MLA constituency assistants to the three caucus offices. In his recent report, auditor general Jacques Lapointe noted some MLAs made undeclared extra payments to their staff.

Parker said.

The practice was widespread, with 30 MLAs making payments through the Speaker's office and 44 through their constituency expenses.

The Liberals said all of their 11 MLAs were on the Speaker's list requesting information. The Tories said 21 of their current or former members were con-

tacted. The NDP said it will release its list today.

Various MLAs said yesterday they were waiting on information from the Speaker's office and the Canada Revenue Agency to figure out how to proceed.

Deductions and income tax started being automatically taken off last December.

There was also no mech-

anism to prove the money actually went to staff members. MLAs simply had to file an expense form saying it was for a staff payment.

"In the past we just got an invoice for \$500 for labour, and that was paid out to the member as long as they were within their spending allowance," Parker said.

make a repayment if Donahoe deems the rules should be changed. In the meantime, Epstein said he isn't expensing any more books.

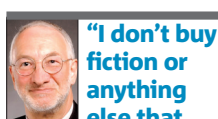
"This is a knowledge-based profession and life-long learning is central to what we do," he said. "When we make the important decisions we make as MLAs, we have to be well-informed. Reading seems to me to be part of that."

PAUL MCLEOD/
METRO HALIFAX

Epstein defends book buys as 'work-related'

SPENDING Halifax Chebucto MLA Howard Epstein said his expensing \$3,000 worth of books is legitimate and he doesn't believe he should repay the government unless the rules are changed.

Epstein's books were one of many expenses tagged by the auditor general as outside the norm. Yesterday, Speaker Charlie Parker said an upcoming meeting of the Internal Economy Board will determine if MLAs will be asked



"I don't buy fiction or anything else that would be purely recreational."

MLA Howard Epstein

to repay those amounts.

But Epstein said either way he won't be paying back the cost of the books yet.

"The materials are pure-

ly related to things like health care and education and the environment," he said.

"I don't buy fiction or anything else that would be purely recreational. These are work-related items."

He said 25 to 30 per cent of his books were actually awards given to high school students.

The MLA said he is waiting for a future expense review from former Speaker Art Donahoe and will

make a repayment if Donahoe deems the rules should be changed. In the meantime, Epstein said he isn't expensing any more books.

"This is a knowledge-based profession and life-long learning is central to what we do," he said. "When we make the important decisions we make as MLAs, we have to be well-informed. Reading seems to me to be part of that."

PAUL MCLEOD/
METRO HALIFAX

Man charged after government employee threatened with knife

CRIME A 32-year-old Annapolis County man is facing several charges after police say a Department of Community Services employee was threatened

with a knife on Tuesday. According to a release issued yesterday by Nova Scotia RCMP, the female employee was visiting the home of a client when she

was assaulted. She escaped without injury and quickly called police.

The suspect, who police haven't identified, was scheduled to appear in An-

napolis court yesterday to face charges of assault with a weapon, possession of a weapon, forcible confinement and breach of probation.

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Woman hurt after tumbling off cliff

SYDNEY MINES A woman was hurt after falling down a steep embankment in Sydney Mines while trying to help an animal in distress on Tuesday night.

Regional police officers and the local fire department responded to a call for help in the Shore Road area. They were told the woman was out for a walk when she thought she heard a dog in distress.

She tried to help, but in doing so tumbled several metres.

Paramedics were able to pull her back up and take her to hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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A former Liberal member of the Nova Scotia legislature has died. Joe Casey would have turned 92 on March 3. Casey represented the riding of Digby for 19 years after he was first elected in 1970. He took a break in 1984 but returned with a strong majority in the 1988 election. **METRO HALIFAX**

Mighty snowstorm wallops HRM

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Whether you were sliding down it, driving through it or cursing the heavens as you dug out from under it — there was no escaping the snow in HRM yesterday.

After four months of feeble sort-of-storms, Mother Nature finally threw down the gauntlet overnight Tuesday, dumping 30 centimetres of the white stuff on the municipality — and topping it off with some flurries yesterday afternoon.

Schools and offices were closed, flights were grounded at Halifax Stanfield International Airport, and traffic came to a standstill in parts of the municipality during morning rush hour. Both provincial and federal government offices delayed opening until at least midday, and a number of small communities in the province found themselves without power



Thomas Rich clears snow off the cars at the Honda dealership on Robie Street. It was Rich's first day on the job. The HRM was hit with a winter storm that dumped over 30 centimetres on the city.

for several hours.

While warnings were issued late Tuesday afternoon, experts said the storm did pack more of a wallop than anticipated.

"We were calling for 20 to 30 cm, and we got 31 cm

officially at the airport," said Environment Canada meteorologist Bob Robichaud. "The one (surprise) was that it came down pretty quickly ... when it did start, the heavier stuff came down in no

time at all."

Despite the messy roads that followed, the morning commute didn't become a fender-bending nightmare, said police spokesman Const. Brian Palmeter.

"So far we've had 16 (mi-

Snow budget

• HRM has spent \$14.3 million so far this winter to keep the municipality's roads free of ice and snow. The city's total snow removal budget is \$15.3 million, with another \$2 million set aside in a reserve fund. According to municipal staff, about 80 per cent of that budget is fixed as it is directly tied to workers and contracts. Last year at this time, HRM had already doled out \$18.5 million to contend with snow.

nor accidents) reported," he said yesterday afternoon. "Certainly, it's a little higher than what we normally see ... but given the severe conditions I think that's pretty good. Obviously, people heeded the advice to stay off the roads."

Environment Canada is predicting a few flurries mixed with rain showers today, followed by what promises to be a sunny, slush-filled weekend.

New land a 'unique opportunity' for province: Government

COASTLINE The Nova Scotia government says its latest land purchase presents a "unique opportunity" for the province.

The provincial government says it has spent \$9 million on 3,929 hectares of land from Wagner Forest Nova Scotia Ltd.

The property includes 22 kilometres of continuous coastline along the Bay of Fundy at Apple Head, in Cumberland County.

Natural Resources Minister John MacDonell says the coastal property will benefit the environment and provide the province with additional tourism and recreation opportunities. As part of the purchase agreement, Wagner has been given permission to harvest about one quarter of the Apple Head area over the next two years, with conditions.

The province's purchase also includes land in Antigonish County surrounded by the Eigg Mountain-James River Wilderness Area and part of an old-growth forest near Panuke Lake in Halifax County.

The Nova Scotia government hopes to protect 12 per cent of the province's land mass by 2015. So far, it has protected 8.6 per cent.

Need a hug? Students trading embraces for Haiti donations

HOLIDAY If you're in need of a hug you can head for Cape Breton this weekend — but it will cost you.

A group of university and high school students has developed a creative approach to raising funds for Haitian children devastated by the recent earthquake. The group has announced that Feb. 20 will be "Hug Day" and anyone who encounters the stu-

dents will be asked if they'd like to receive a hug and make a donation to support Haitian children.

Nicole Morrison, a fourth-year arts student at Cape Breton University, says the goal is to spread a message of love, support and connection.

All funds raised will be donated to the charity Hugs for Haitian Kids.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CUPE backs MLA's proposed holiday

HOLIDAY CUPE Nova Scotia is throwing its support behind Liberal MLA Diana Whalen and her pursuit to introduce a long weekend in February.

CUPE Nova Scotia president Danny Cavanaugh said in a release yesterday, "if it's good enough for at least five provinces and all of the United States, then it should be good enough for Nova Scotians."

"The period from Jan. 1

MLA lobbies premier

• Whalen said she sent a letter to Premier Darrell Dexter last Friday, asking for his government's support in the creation

of the holiday. She suggested it be dubbed Joseph Howe Day, after Nova Scotia's fifth premier.

through to the Easter weekend is the longest stretch of the year without a holiday and at a time of year when it's needed most," he said.

There are currently five federally mandated statuto-

ry holidays in Nova Scotia — the lowest in any Canadian province. In contrast, Saskatchewan has 10 and P.E.I. and New Brunswick have seven each.

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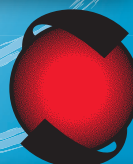
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Jail in lockdown after peaceful demonstration

The maximum-security Atlantic Institution in N.B., was under lockdown yesterday. Officials took action as a result of a peaceful demonstration by a group of inmates. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

'There was a lot of wrongdoing:' Lawyer

A Saskatchewan lawyer with ties to Nova Scotia is about to launch a class-action lawsuit on behalf of victims of sexual and physical abuse at deaf schools in Halifax and Amherst.

Tony Merchant, whose great-grandfather was Amherst lawyer Charles Reynolds Smith, is in the process of collecting complaints from people alleging abuse at the two schools through the 1990s. "These victims were perfect victims in that they could pretty much not report their abusers because they could not communicate," said Merchant, who is based in Regina.

"There was no way for them to get protection. Because of that, there was a lot of wrongdoing."

Among those participating in the suit are 61-year-old Walter Wile of Calgary and Myles Murphy, 59, of

"These victims were perfect victims in that they could pretty much not report their abusers because they could not communicate."

Charles Reynolds Smith, lawyer

St. John's, N.L. Wile claims he was physically and sexually abused during the nine years he spent at the residential deaf schools in Amherst and Halifax in the 1950s and 1960s. Murphy claims he was psychologically and physically abused by employees and students at the Amherst school in the early 1960s.

Merchant alleges students were abused not only by staff, but by fellow students.

Merchant said 15 people have joined the class-action suit in Nova Scotia and there are 300 people participating in similar

suits across the country.

None of the allegations have been proven in court and the province has yet to file a defence.

Merchant said the province has yet to be served as he is waiting to see whether similar cases in other provinces are certified. Court must approve a class-action case before it can proceed.

Merchant expects to serve the province with the action in about six weeks.

The Amherst school closed in 1995 when it was merged in Halifax with the school for the visually impaired. **AMHERST DAILY NEWS**

City gear for Good Samaritans?

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EQUIPMENT The municipality's Good Samaritans could soon be getting a helping hand of their own from HRM.

Regional council has asked staff to look into the possibility of providing the city's Citizens on Patrol (COP) with funding for gas, cell-phones, two-way radios and other equipment they may use during their rounds.

There are currently four COP groups affiliated with the Halifax Regional Police, and 13 additional groups that work with the RCMP in nearby rural areas. The volunteers always work in pairs, using their own vehicles to patrol various neighbourhoods and

contact police if they spot suspicious situations or crimes in progress.

"They have found lost children, assisted with a person passed out in the snow, reported drunk drivers, identified crimes in progress, and helped locate suspects," said a report submitted to council Tuesday night.

Several councilors said they already donate small amounts of money to the groups through their capital district accounts, but Coun. Debbie Hum said HRM should be doing more to support COP efforts, and requested that staff make recommendations for dedicated funding during the upcoming HRM budget debates.

Council approved the motion unanimously.



Debbie Hum

Better Business Bureau business booming

SERVICE The Better Business Bureau of the Maritime Provinces is reporting a major spike in its own business over the past year.

The bureau said consumers and businesses turned to the BBB more than 675,000 times in 2009 through its phone lines, main office or website.

"The bulk of the traffic came through the website, which logged 348,943 page views for the year," said a release.

The bureau is responsible for gathering and disseminating information and handling complaints related to businesses throughout the Maritime Provinces. BBB Reliability Reports and letter grades from A+ to F reflect customers' experience with the businesses over a three-year period.

METRO HALIFAX

Woman in hospital after standoff

ARREST A woman is being assessed at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital after barricading herself in a Sydney home and refusing to allow police in for about two hours Tuesday night.

The Cape Breton Regional Police received a call from a crisis centre around 8:40 p.m. notifying them that they had been

talking to a woman who wanted to harm herself with a knife.

When police arrived at the home, the woman refused to let police in to check on her condition.

Streets leading to the area were blocked off and a negotiator, along with members of the emergency response team, was called in to assist.

After a two-hour standoff, police were able to gain entry to the home.

They arrested the woman under the Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment Act and she was transported to hospital.

CAPE BRETON POST

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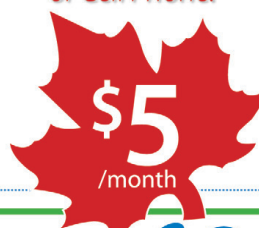
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6

CTV says a mentally unstable man got within a few metres of U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden last Friday during opening ceremonies for the Vancouver Games. He was using a fake pass when he was intercepted by security officers. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Biden in security scare at Games opening

Canada



Home run

Real-estate officials say 25,671 homes were sold across the country in January. That's up 58 per cent from the same month in 2009.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cauldron row on the boil

Will new viewing platform end complaints over fence?

VANCOUVER

2010 Games

The Olympic cauldron is even more ready for prime time. Or so Games organizers say.

The Vancouver officials have opened a rooftop viewing platform to give the public a better look at the cauldron.

They hope it will stem controversy over its location behind a chain-link fence.

It may not.

Yesterday people were still angry a fence was put up in the first place.

"I would love it if they took down the fence," said Scott Crisp, who came to Vancouver from Victoria.

"It seems a little obscure there would be a fence in front of the flame."

Now, about 150 people at a time can go up to the new platform on the roof of a one-storey building beside the waterfront plaza that is home to the 2010 cauldron.

The fence that infuriated those who wanted to have a look at the Games icon will remain, however.

But it will be moved closer to the cauldron, allowing a better view from the street.



A spectator views the Olympic cauldron through a hole in the hated chain-link fence. Games organizers have erected a new viewing platform, but it may not end the complaints.

Thousands of Olympic fans have been filing past the flame, which was lit by hockey legend Wayne Gretzky at the Games' opening ceremonies and will continue to burn for the duration of the Games.

Most were surprised and many were upset to find it originally behind a fence covered in blue-and-green

"I would love it if they took down the fence."

Scott Crisp

Olympic bunting.

Yesterday, Games CEO John Furlong praised the new viewing platform.

"The Olympic cauldron

is a powerful symbol and the desire to get as close to it as possible has been remarkable — more than we expected," Furlong said.

"We are pleased to provide enhanced opportunities for all to see the cauldron in its spectacular waterfront setting — at its best."

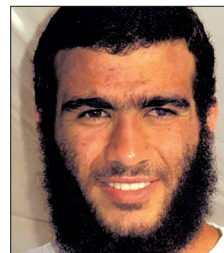
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories slapped over Khadr

TERROR Opposition parties slammed the government yesterday for asking the United States to withhold any Canadian-gathered evidence against Omar Khadr, the accused terrorist held at the military prison in Guantanamo Bay.

NDP Leader Jack Layton called the diplomatic note sent by Ottawa to Washington a "disgraceful slap in the face to the Supreme Court and to the concept the Canadian government should be defending human rights pursuant to our charter."

He also blasted the timing of the Conservative government's decision, in a news release Tuesday — minutes before the puck was to drop in the debut match of the Canadian Olympic men's



Omar Khadr

hockey team.

Layton joined Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff in criticizing the government for failing to tell Washington that Khadr was a child soldier at the time of his arrest in 2002 after a firefight in Afghanistan, in which a U.S. army medic was killed.

The high court ruled last

"(It's) a disgraceful slap in the face to the Supreme Court and to the concept the Canadian government should be defending human rights."

Jack Layton

month the government violated Khadr's constitutional rights by questioning him in U.S. custody. But the justices did not order the government to seek repatriation, and the government has said it will not do so.

Khadr, born in Toronto and now 23, is the last Western national in the U.S. military prison. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Day warns unions of wage cuts

MONEY Treasury Board president Stockwell Day says the federal government has to "live within its means," and the public service has to be part of the plan to eliminate the deficit.

Speaking after pre-budget meetings with two of the federal government's largest unions, Day would not rule out pension or wage cuts — moves the unions have lobbied hard to prevent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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World



Court suspends results of election

Ukraine's presidential election results giving the victory to Russia-friendly Viktor Yanukovich were suspended yesterday pending review of his rival's appeal. Ukraine's Administrative Court said it would rule on the appeal of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, left, by Feb. 25, when lawmakers had planned to inaugurate Yanukovich. Tymoshenko has refused to concede, claiming the election was tainted by fraud.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eight of 10 U.S. missionaries released

HAITI Eight American missionaries charged with child kidnapping have been freed from a Haitian jail. The group, looking bedraggled and sweat-soaked, walked out of the Haitian jail just after dusk yesterday. Escorted by U.S. diplomats, they were taken to an American field hospital inside the airport. Once they were safely inside a transport vehicle they flashed smiles and gave a thumbs up.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Cheerful slogans pepper Baghdad, but most are uneasy about dark days ahead of pending elections. Scan this code for the story.

France tries to make amends in Haiti

Former colonizers offer \$400M in aid, forgive debt as Sarkozy visits Port-au-Prince

Nicolas Sarkozy promised \$400 million US in aid for quake-stricken Haiti yesterday as he made the first visit ever by a French president to what was once his nation's richest colony.

"I want only to say to the Haitian people, 'You are not alone,'" Sarkozy said at a news conference on the grounds of Haiti's National Palace, one of many government buildings shattered by the Jan. 12 earthquake.

Some Haitians see France's renewed interest in their nation as a counterbalance to the U.S., which has sent troops there three times in the past 16 years. But Sarkozy's visit is also reviving bitter memories of the crippling costs of Haiti's 1804 independence.

Haiti Crisis

A third of the population was killed in an uprising against exceptionally brutal slavery, an international embargo was imposed to deter slave revolts elsewhere and 90 million pieces of gold were demanded by Paris from the world's first black republic.

The debt hobbled Haiti for much of its history. Some people handed out fliers in the streets protesting Sarkozy's visit and blaming France for enslaving Haiti.

Sarkozy acknowledged the "wounds of colonization" during comments at the undamaged French Em-



French President Nicolas Sarkozy greets earthquake survivors in Port-au-Prince yesterday.

bassy, and later said, "I know well the story of our countries on the question of debt."

With an eye on that old grievance, France has already said it was cancelling

all of Haiti's \$77 million debt to Paris. The aid package also will include reconstruction money, emergency aid and \$40 million in support for the Haitian government's budget.

History

• In 1825, crippled by an international embargo, Haiti agreed to pay France 150 million francs for the lost "property" — including slaves — of French plantation owners. Haiti did not finish paying the debilitating debt until 1947.

Sarkozy said Haiti needs a reconstruction plan that bolsters the outlying provinces to help shift people away from Port-au-Prince, the Caribbean's most densely populated capital. He said one reason the death toll was so high was that the city was not built to sustain such a large population.

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Taliban increasing use of human shields

AFGHANISTAN Taliban fighters holding out in the town of Marjah are increasingly using civilians as human shields, firing from compounds where U.S. and Afghan forces can clearly see women and children on rooftops or in windows, Afghan and U.S. troops said yesterday.

The intermingling of fighters and civilians also has been witnessed by Associated Press journalists. It is part of a Taliban effort to exploit strict NATO rules against endangering innocent lives to impede the allied advance through the town in Helmand province.

Two more NATO service

7 NATO service members and Afghan soldiers killed in the five-day old battle for Marjah.

members were killed in the Marjah operation yesterday, the alliance said in a statement without identifying them by nationality.

Their deaths brought to six NATO service members and one Afghan soldier who have been killed since the attack on Marjah, the hub of the Taliban's southern logistics and drug-smuggling network, began Saturday. About 40 insurgents have been killed, Helmand Gov.

Gulab Mangal said.

NATO spokesman Brig. Gen. Eric Tremblay of Canada told journalists in Belgium that most of the objectives have been achieved. "Perhaps the pocket in the western side of Marjah still gives freedom of movement to the Taliban, but that is the extent of their movement," he said.

Brig. Gen. Mohiuddin Ghorri, the brigade commander of Afghan troops in Marjah, said in some cases women and children may have been ordered to stand on a roof or in a window of buildings where Taliban fighters are shooting.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malaysian women caned for having sex

KUALA LUMPUR Authorities in Malaysia caned three Muslim women for having extramarital sex, making them the first women in the country to receive such punishment under Islamic law, an official said yesterday.

Each woman received between four and six strokes of a rattan cane, the official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to make public statements.

Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein an-

nounced the caning earlier Wednesday. He did not release details of their identities or when they had been sentenced but said that one of the women was released last week after spending a month in prison.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

ITALY The Shroud sells. That seems to be how celebrations are shaping up in the former Olympic city of Turin, when the archdiocese this spring displays the Shroud of Turin,

revered by many Christians as Jesus Christ's burial cloth. At least one million reservations from around the world have already poured in to secure three to five minutes to

admire the cloth that has fascinated pilgrims and scientists alike, organizers of the April 10 to May 23 showing said yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kodak seeks to bar Blackberrys, iPhones

Eastman Kodak Co.'s patent-infringement complaint seeking to block U.S. imports of Research In Motion Ltd.'s BlackBerry phones and Apple Inc.'s iPhone will be investigated by a U.S. trade agency. Kodak also has a civil lawsuit pending over digital-camera technology. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Rogers Q4 profit: \$310M

Smartphones help push revenue up

Rogers Communications Inc.'s fast-growing wireless division — seller of Apple's iPhone and other smartphones — helped push up revenues as the company reported a fourth-quarter profit of \$310 million.

Revenue from wireless data for services like email, texting and Internet surfing contributed almost 25 per cent of Roger's revenues in the most recent quarter, Rogers said yesterday.

"It's no longer in any

way, shape or form a trivial part of the business," Rogers Wireless president Rob Bruce said during a conference call.

"It's absolutely the growth engine of the wireless business," he said.

Rogers also announced that it is hiking its dividend and renewing a stock buyback program that will allow the Toronto-based company to cancel up to \$1.5 billion worth of its publicly traded B shares in the coming year.

"We delivered another very solid quarter's results despite the challenging economy and an increase in competitive environment in Q4," president and chief executive Nadir Mohamed told analysts.

The annualized dividend paid by Rogers will rise to \$1.28 per class A voting share and class B non-voting share, or 32 cents per quarter — up from the previous annualized rate of \$1.16 per share.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hotels Trump facing trouble



Celebrity real-estate developer Donald Trump (shown with wife Melania Knauss yesterday) and investor Carl Icahn are heading for a faceoff in bankruptcy court next week that could determine the fate of Trump's namesake Atlantic City hotel-casinos.

Last year was sunny for WestJet

EARNINGS WestJet Airlines Ltd. will add capacity to sunny holiday spots in the face of continuing pressure on fares it can charge with in Canada.

But despite the worst economic downturn in decades, WestJet ended 2009 with its 19th consecutive profitable quarter, though earnings and revenue were sharply lower than in 2008.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Google makes changes after Buzz raises online privacy concerns

ONLINE A privacy watchdog group complained to U.S. regulators on Tuesday about Google's new Buzz social networking service,

saying it violates federal consumer protection law. The Electronic Privacy Information Centre filed its complaint just days af-

ter Google Inc. altered the service to address mounting privacy concerns.

Since launching Google Buzz as part of Gmail a

week ago, the search company has come under fire for automatically creating public circles of friends for users based on their most

frequent Gmail contacts. Over the weekend, Google altered the service to merely suggest contacts for its users. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Comment & Views

EDITOR: MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONews.CA

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Comment

Shifting protocols of saying goodbye

Relating

Steve Collins

metronews.ca/collins

Modern life is geographically scattered, computer mediated and subject to change without notice. When it's time to

say goodbye, tradition can't always tell us how to say it.

On Christmas Day, a favourite aunt died. She'd been deprived by illness of her faculties years ago. We had already been forced to make our peace with losing this funny, lively woman. When it came, the final goodbye was more of a formality, and no funeral was held.

I understood the decision of my uncle, who had spent the last years caring

for her, largely alone, when she could no longer do so herself. There was little left to be said.

Last month, I said goodbye to someone I'd never met. One of the posters on an Internet message board I frequent died young and suddenly, leaving people who had known him only from words on the screen in a distinctive blue font suddenly wrestling with a weird sort of grief.

The site itself is no encounter group. Its denizens

pride themselves on a coarse, flame-happy humour and level of discourse about as low as found anywhere on the Net. Those who had given him the hardest time online, however, were among those most stunned by his death.

The acquaintance was virtual but the loss strangely real.

On Valentine's Day, I lost an old dog who was sort of mine. Courtesy of the jury-rigged terms of a family

split, he spent his weekends with us, leaving the suburbs for a downtown apartment. (I wrote a eulogy for a friend's dog last summer in this column, and I promise not to make a habit of canine obits, but please bear with me.)

It's funny how these improvised arrangements over the years can enter the very warp and, uh, woof of one's life. New routines and rhythms emerge, and they soon feel like they've always been there.

The apartment is too quiet now, and the leash lies on a chair, never again to promise a walk and elicit frantic jumps with its jingle.

There was no funeral, just sad practicalities. I wrapped him in a bedsheet and carried him to the car and the animal hospital, honoured to be his pallbearer.

The rituals may change, but goodbye never does.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.

Views

Teens and the F-word: What's next for feminism?

FourthWave

Canice Leung

metronews.ca/fourthwave

This past weekend, I led a workshop on online journalism as part of Shameless Magazine's Wire, a series that teaches high school girls the fundamentals of journalism. I learned what exactly it is teens do on the Internet (lots of Facebook, it turns out) and met some probable future feminists.

As an exercise, the participants created a group blog — and I found some

glimpses into the minds of 16-year-olds: The sexist origins of Barbie (originally a sex toy for men, not a plaything for girls); why Valentine's Day sucks (who needs to be one-half of a lovesick pair of puppies?); and the addictive qualities of Facebook (a Petri dish for self-expression, as well as narcissism, jealousy and bragging).

Allison Martell, the organizer of Shameless Wire, told me that most of the girls never used the F-word, but noted that even if not in name, their opinions often overlapped with basic feminist concepts.

It got me thinking: These girls are already questioning how Barbies, relationships and our online identities de-

fine them — yet they didn't need to use feminist as a title.

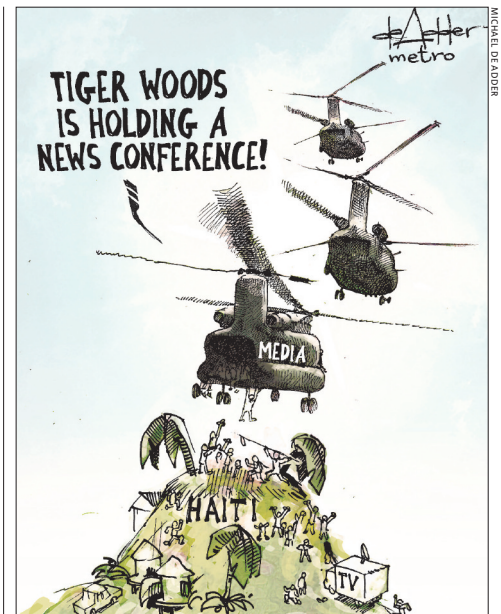
Feminism can be tracked in waves: The first was suffrage; the second was liberation of the housewife; the third is the intersection of gender with race, sexuality and socioeconomic. The fourth wave doesn't yet exist, but already the principles of the former waves are infused within women's psyches — so what's next?

As blogger Jessica Valenti predicted in a New York Times interview, the next wave is online activism. And about women's roles, rights and responsibilities. The Internet is information democracy — blogs upon blogs upon Twitter feeds

connect people talking about global, social, cultural and personal politics. Individualism and opinion, so celebrated these days, can refashion feminism (and other political activism) as an inclusive belief, not a rarified academic pursuit. If people don't like what they see, they can add to the conversation.

To the girls I met, the usual talking points about careers and working mothers are a given, not an option. They've moved into post-"feminism," as it's still defined, and it's time for feminists to as well.

Canice Leung is a former editor of Ryerson University feminist magazine McClung's, copy editor at Metro, ardent feminist and loudmouth.



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Frost Heaves sign Stewart

The Vermont Frost Heaves have strengthened their lineup with the signing of star point guard Al Stewart, last year's Premier Basketball League defensive player of the year with the Manchester Millrats. Vermont is 3-4. **METRO HALIFAX**

11

Sports

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA



Smit, Beaver earn AUS honours

Kerri Smit and Alison Beaver of the Saint Mary's Huskies were named first-team Atlantic University Sport women's volleyball all-stars yesterday. The Huskies will host the six-team AUS championship starting tomorrow at The Tower.

METRO HALIFAX

Moose agitate, but can't win

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Halifax Mooseheads got under the skin of the Saint John Sea Dogs, but they didn't have the last laugh.

With a sideshow centring around agitating Mooseheads defenceman Garrett Clarke for most of the night, the nationally-top-ranked Sea Dogs skated away with a 6-2 win before a crowd of 4,868 at the Metro Centre last night.

Clarke rocked Sea Dogs forwards Nicholas Petersen and Stephen MacAulay with jarring hits that would have made Don Cherry proud, but the Sea Dogs — after chasing Clarke around the ice for the better part of 42 minutes — got down to business in a four-goal third period and took it to the Herd.

"We knew they were going to come at us hard and try to sometimes get dirty, but we stepped up and played a good, solid game," said Sea Dogs blueliner Yann Sauve, who took at least one retaliatory swat at Clarke. "It's part of the game."

The last-place Mooseheads were in position to stun the Sea Dogs early in the third period when Tomas Knotek's one-timer 1:35 in tied the

game at two.

But just 22 seconds later, Zach Phillips kicked off a four-goal Sea Dogs rally, including three goals in a two-minute, 13-second span.

"They just put the puck on the net and scored some lucky goals, but it was a physical third period," said Charles Bety, who scored Halifax's first goal and was the third star.

Bodies were flying everywhere at one point. Everybody wanted a piece of Clarke, who landed face-down on the ice after two post-whistle scrums with no penalty called.

"He's sometimes diving and things like this, but he's a good player," Sauve said.

"Every time, if it's a cheap shot, we've got to tell him and say something to him."

Clarke, who declined invitations to fight and delighted the crowd with his hits, said he was just doing his part.

"I took out Petersen in the first period and it sets the tone for the rest of the game," he said.

"Every time he sees me coming he's going to turn away or give the puck away."

"It's just the way I play."

The Mooseheads, 13-40-5, open a home-and-home with the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles tomorrow in Sydney.



Moose goalie Mathieu Corbeil watches the puck sail over his shoulder but wide of the net during the first period of last night's QMJHL game against the Saint John Sea Dogs at the Metro Centre.

Division changes coming to Q

• The QMJHL has made some minor changes to its division and playoff formats for the 2010-11 season. The Halifax Mooseheads will remain in a six-team Maritime Division with Saint John, P.E.I., Moncton, Cape Breton and Bathurst, but the three other

divisions — Western, Central and Eastern — will be merged into two. The Mooseheads will play eight games against each opponent in the Maritime Division and a minimum of two games against teams from the Eastern and Western di-

visions. The top 16 teams overall still qualify for the playoffs, with division champions seeded first, second and third. The highest seeds play the lowest seeds in the first round of the playoffs, starting with first versus 16th.

Weather delays Huskies, Bleus series opener

AUS The Atlantic University Sport men's hockey quarterfinal between the Saint Mary's Huskies and Moncton Aigles Bleus will now start tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Halifax Forum.

Game 1 was originally scheduled for last night, but was postponed because of the weather. Game 2 will be played Saturday in Moncton, while the puck will drop on Game 3, if necessary, on Sunday at 7 p.m. back at the Forum.

The other quarterfinal opened last night, with the host St. Francis Xavier X-Men beating the P.E.I. Panthers 3-2.

METRO HALIFAX

Capers hand X-Men first loss

BASKETBALL The Cape Breton Capers dealt the St. Francis Xavier X-Men their first loss last night and asserted themselves as the top team in Atlantic University Sport men's basketball.

The Capers earned an 85-82 victory over the X-Men in Sydney to improve to 17-1 and open up an eight-point edge atop the AUS standings. The X-Men fell to 16-1.

It was the first meeting of the two teams this season.

METRO HALIFAX

Gaudet hoping to make his way back to MLS

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

SOCCER Bayside's Derek Gaudet is hoping the road back to Major League Soccer goes through Portland, Me.

The 20-year-old midfielder is attending training camp with the Portland Timbers this week in the hopes of cracking the United Soccer League club's first division roster.

With the Timbers set to join MLS as an expansion franchise in 2011, it's a good fit for Gaudet, who made his 27-minute pro debut with Toronto FC on Sept. 6, 2008.

"If he gets on with them,

there's a good chance he can continue on with them into the MLS," said Mike Hudson, Soccer Nova Scotia's technical director. "It's a good opportunity."

Gaudet, who was named Nova Scotia Soccer League Premiership MVP with Halifax Dunbrack last summer, trained with the senior men's national team last month in Florida.

That team, captained by Bedford defender Ante Jazic of MLS's Chivas USA, lost 1-0 to Jamaica in an international friendly on Jan. 31 and is preparing to face two-time world champion Argentina in Buenos Aires on May 24.

According to Hudson, Gaudet had a good camp.

"Some of the top players, like Dwayne De Rosario (of Toronto FC), commented on how much they like him as a player."

Mike Hudson, Soccer Nova Scotia on Derek Gaudet

"Some of the top players, like Dwayne De Rosario (of Toronto FC), commented on how much they like him as a player," Hudson said. "We're hoping he can get on with Portland and make that next step to the national team."



Bayside's Derek Gaudet on the field with Halifax Dunbrack of the Nova Scotia Soccer League Premiership last summer.

m.metronews.ca



The main bout in UFC's Australian debut should be an intriguing contrast in styles of the two top heavyweights. Scan this code for the story.

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Quebec	1	8	.111	7.5

SUNDAY
Buffalo at HALIFAX, 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 26
Puerto Rico at HALIFAX, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 28
HALIFAX at Vermont

FRIDAY, MARCH 5
HALIFAX at Quebec

Tim Lincecum and the San Francisco Giants have finalized their \$23 million US, two-year contract that avoided salary arbitration. The two-time NL Cy Young Award winner reached a preliminary agreement last Friday, and the sides have completed the deal, a team spokesman said yesterday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Sports in brief

DRUNK DRIVING Injured Edmonton Oilers goalie Nikolai Khabibulin has been arrested in Arizona and charged with drunk driving. Police in Scottsdale say they stopped a black Ferrari for speeding Feb. 8. The officer who made the stop noticed a smell of alcohol on the driver's breath and made the arrest after a sobriety test.

NFL The Baltimore Ravens say they have signed wide receiver Donte' Stallworth to a one-year contract. Stallworth was recently released by the Cleveland Browns after being reinstated by the NFL following a one-year suspension.

FIGHTS Ontario isn't ready to allow mixed martial arts fighting matches to be held in the province, Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday, even though events like the wildly popular Ultimate Fighting Championship could create new jobs. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
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Sacramento at Golden State

Tiger's ready to talk

Controversial golfer to address media Friday

Tiger Woods will end nearly three months of silence tomorrow when he speaks publicly for the first time since his middle-of-the-night car accident that sparked stunning revelations of infidelity.

However, his agent said Woods will not take any questions from a small group of media.

"This is not a press conference," Mark Steinberg said yesterday.

It will be Woods' first public appearance since Nov. 27, when he crashed his SUV into a tree outside his Florida home. Woods' only comments since then have been made through his website.

Woods is to speak at 11 a.m. tomorrow from the clubhouse at the TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., home of the PGA Tour. "This is all about the next step," Steinberg said. "He's looking forward to it."

Still, there was strict control over the appearance, typical of Woods' career.

Steinberg described the



Tiger Woods jogs with an unidentified friend near his home yesterday in Orlando, Fla.

gathering as a "small group of friends, colleagues and close associates," who will listen to Woods apologize as he talks about the past and what he plans to do next. He said three wire services have been invited — The Associated Press, Reuters and Bloomberg — and he asked the Golf Writers Association

of America to recommend pool reporters.

Only one camera will be in the room to provide live coverage via satellite. Steinberg said other writers with proper credentials could watch from a hotel ballroom more than a kilometre away.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Agent expects Suns to deal Stoudemire by trade deadline

NBA The agent for Amare Stoudemire says he expects the all-star power forward to be traded by today's 4 p.m. AST deadline, with Cleveland and Miami the most likely destinations.

Happy Walters told The Associated Press that it would make no sense for the Phoenix Suns not to trade Stoudemire only to see him walk away as a free agent at the end of the season.

Walters said Stoudemire believes Phoenix's game last night at Dallas will be his last for the Suns.

"It's going to be emotional," Walters said. "... he really does love the team and he knows he's playing with one of the best point guards ever."

Suns general manager Steve Kerr declined to comment on the situation. Kerr never has said the team definitely would trade Stoudemire, only that he is listening to offers.

Stoudemire, who has

played all eight of his NBA seasons with the Suns, has one year left on his contract but can opt out after this season. If he decides not to opt out, he would earn \$17.7 million US next season.

Despite the agent's claims of how much Stoudemire loves the Suns, the forward seemed ready to leave in comments he made before Phoenix's 109-95 victory at Memphis on Tuesday night.

"A lot of teams are interested in me," Stoudemire told The Arizona Republic. "It's really great to know you're wanted and that teams really respect your professionalism and style of play and feel that you can help their play."

The Suns still have several options if they decide not to make a deal now and Kerr has said in the past that no deal would be made unless it made sense for Phoenix.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



"It's really great to know you're wanted."

Amare Stoudemire

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Selanne ties scoring record

Teemu Selanne has tied the all-time scoring record in the Olympic Games. The Finnish forward assisted on Olli Jokinen's first-period goal against Belarus yesterday, giving him 36 points. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

St-Gelais races her way to silver

Short-track team just misses winning two medals

Canada's powerhouse short-track speedskating team is on the board at the Winter Olympics.

Marianne St-Gelais of St-Felicien, Que., raced to a silver medal in the women's 500 metres yesterday at Pacific Coliseum. Chinese star Wang Meng cruised to gold in 43.048 seconds.

St-Gelais finished in 43.707 while Arianna Fontana of Italy took the bronze in 43.804.

"I just felt the greatest emotion of my life," said Charles Hamelin, St-Gelais' boyfriend and the top medal contender on the Canadian team. "I don't think I could have felt better if it was me winning the medal."

Hamelin was in the back, surrounded by journalists, watching the race on TV when she crossed the finish line.

Canada missed a chance at two medals after Jessica

Gregg of Edmonton finished fourth in 44.204.

Canada's top sprinter Kalyna Roberge of St-Etienne-de-Lauzon, Que., failed to make it to the medal race. She was fourth in the event four years ago at the Turin Games.

Roberge and St-Gelais had a long embrace after the race.

Canada failed to make the podium on the first

day of the Olympic short-track competition. The team is aiming for six medals at the Games.

In the men's 1,000-metre elimination heats, brothers Charles and Francois Hamelin advanced to the quarter-finals. Charles Hamelin briefly held the Olympic record yesterday, but it

was beaten a few heats later by South Korea's Sung Si-Bak.

Nicolas Bean of Ottawa also advanced for the Italian team. He passed Travis Jayner of Riverview, N.B., who is skating for the United States, in the final strides of the heat. Canada also advanced to the final in the 5,000-metre men's relay.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Chan wakes up to face daunting challenge

FIGURE SKATING Patrick Chan went back to his room Tuesday night, watched some TV and had no trouble falling asleep.

Yesterday morning was like waking up to lousy weather. Reality had rolled in like dark clouds.

"I just kind of woke up this morning in a crappy mood," said the 19-year-old from Toronto. Chan, who arrived in Vancouver

lugging the heavy expectations as one of Canada's top medal contenders in figure skating, finds himself having to claw back from a disappointing seventh-place finish in Tuesday's short program. He needs the skate of his life today to have any shot at the podium.

He was back on the practice ice at Trout Lake on Wednesday morning, hoping to shake off the effects of his disheartening short program that had him numb with disbelief only a few hours earlier.

Chan takes comfort in Jeffrey Buttle's performance at the 2006 Olympics in Italy — in sixth place after stumbling through his short program, the Canadian battled back to win a bronze medal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Patrick Chan

Women's downhill Gold for Vonn



Gold medallist Lindsey Vonn, right, and silver medallist Julia Mancuso, of the U.S., wave their country's flag yesterday as they celebrate after the women's downhill. The race saw several spectacular crashes, including one that resulted in Swedish standout Anja Paerson being taken to hospital. Vonn was hurt Feb. 2 during pre-Olympic practice in Austria and had hardly skied over the past two weeks. Still, as the two-time defending overall World Cup champion, she entered as an overwhelming favourite.

Long-track speedskater Davis defends 1,000-metre gold

ICE American Shani Davis defended his Olympic title in the men's 1,000-metre long-track speedskating competition, while Canadian Denny Morrison finished a disappointing 13th yesterday.

The world record holder in the event, Davis finished first in one minute 8.94 seconds.

South Korea's Mo Tae-Bum, who won gold earlier this week in the 500

metres, was second in 1:09.12. American Chad Hedrick took the bronze in 1:09.32.

Morrison, from Fort St. John, B.C., finished 13th in 1:10.30 while veteran teammate Jeremy Wotherpoon was 14th in his final Olympic race with a time of 1:10.35.

This was expected to be the first of three medals for Morrison at the Vancouver Games and he'll

need to get his head straight for the next event, the 1,500 on Saturday.

"It'll linger for about 10 minutes," he said. "I'll get back to the changeroom, maybe throw around some things. But I have to use it for the 1,500, obviously I want to get on the podium there."

Other Canadian competitors also fared poorly. Francois-Olivier Roberge

of St-Nicolas, Que., was 20th while Kyle Parrott of Minnedosa, Man., was 24th.

Comedian Stephen Colbert, who has made the U.S. team his pet project, watched from the stands at the Richmond Olympic Oval just south of Vancouver.

He threw his hands in the air in celebration as Davis won gold.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

What to watch today

TV Highlights

1 p.m.: Men's curling
Canada vs. Sweden (Sportsnet).

2:20 p.m.: Biathlon
Women's 15 km individual gold medal (TSN).

4 p.m.: Men's hockey
U.S. vs. Norway (Sportsnet).

4:30 p.m.: Alpine skiing
Women's super combined slalom gold medal (TSN).

5 p.m.: Speedskating
Women's long track 1,000 m gold medal (CTV).

5:20 p.m.: Biathlon
Men's 20 km individual gold medal (OLN).

6 p.m.: Women's curling
Canada vs. Germany (TSN).

6:30 p.m.: Women's hockey
U.S. vs. Finland (Sportsnet).

8:30 p.m.: Men's hockey
Men's hockey Switzerland vs. Canada (CTV).

9 p.m.: Figure skating
Men's free skate gold medal (TSN).

10 p.m.: Snowboarding
Women's halfpipe gold medal (Sportsnet).

11 p.m.: Men's curling
Canada vs. France (Sportsnet).

1 a.m.: Men's curling
Men's hockey Slovakia vs. Russia (TSN).

VANCOUVER GAMES					
Medal Count					
NATION	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total	
U.S.	4	3	5	12	
Germany	3	4	3	10	
France	2	1	4	7	
Canada	2	3	1	6	
South Korea	3	2	0	5	
Austria	1	2	2	5	
Norway	1	2	2	5	
Switzerland	3	0	1	4	
China	2	1	1	4	
Italy	0	1	3	4	
Russia	1	1	1	3	
Sweden	2	0	0	2	
Slovakia	1	1	0	2	
Czech Republic	1	0	1	2	
Poland	0	2	0	2	
Japan	0	1	1	2	

On the web

- Up-to-date medal standings and results
- Metro-Blenz News Squad on-the-ground blog

Visit metronews.ca for more Games coverage.

Vancouver Games



Another rout for Canada

KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Canada

Another hockey game, another trouncing.

Canada's women's team outshot, out-skated and outplayed Sweden to a 13-1 victory yesterday, in what was supposed to be a more evenly matched game than its blowouts over Switzerland and Slovakia.

Both teams were undefeated in the tournament leading up to the game.

But the Canadians dominated yesterday's game early on, securing a comfortable 5-0 lead in the first period and scoring seven more goals by the end of the second.

Swedish goalie Kim Martin could do little with the endless barrage of shots and was pulled halfway through the second.

The third period was

more evenly played, with both teams getting nine shots on net and scoring a goal apiece. Sweden's one goal came from Katarina Timlas on a power play.

But by then, the damage was done.

"(Canada) skated faster, passed better and had better shooting," said Peter Elander, head coach of Team Sweden. "They were completely better in all moments of the game."

Canadian head coach Melody Davidson said she's worried that blowouts like this may lead the IOC to conclude there isn't a deep enough talent pool to warrant the inclusion of women's hockey in future Games.

"We have a job to do here and we work hard all year to put together a team that can do that job," Davidson said. "(But) we're still conflicted, there's no two ways about it."

Men's hockey Eyes on the puck



Canada's Jarome Iginla, left, Rick Nash and Sidney Crosby watch a shootout yesterday during the men's ice hockey team practice at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games. Canada will take on Switzerland today.

Swiss looking for repeat of '06 against Canada

HOCKEY It was a moment Luca Sbisa will never forget.

Sitting at home in Switzerland four years ago, the teenager could hardly believe his eyes while watching the national team pull off a 2-0 upset victory over Team Canada at the Turin Games.

"That's the biggest win

in Swiss hockey history," said Sbisa, a member of Switzerland's team this year. "A couple days before that they won against the Czech Republic so that was already huge. Everyone was like, 'OK, they're already good, they're not getting criticized.' Then they beat the Canadians ... They got celebrated back

home like heroes."

Heading into today's game against Team Canada, the Swiss are hoping for a repeat of 2006. "That's the same way we want to play here — we just want to rattle the opponents by not giving them much room and space," said Sbisa.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Bernard beats Japan to move to 2-0

CURLING The flair for the dramatic that Cheryl Bernard showed at the Canadian Olympic curling trials in Edmonton is back on display at the Winter Games in Vancouver.

Bernard notched her second consecutive win to start the women's Olympic curling tournament yesterday with a 7-6 decision over Japan's Moe Meguro.

The Calgary skip trailed 6-5 heading into the 10th end, but took out a Japanese rock with her hammer, scoring two and sending more than 5,000 boisterous fans into a frenzy.

Bernard kicked off the tournament on Tuesday with a win over two-time silver medalist Mirjam Ott of Switzerland.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Visit metronews.ca for complete curling results.



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RateSupermarket.ca

Canada's rate comparison website



15

Metro Homes

Fireside warmth

When it comes to your own chalet, a big, dramatic fireplace in the central area is another idea that has endured, and for good reason.

SYLVIA PUTZ/FOR METRO CANADA

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

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DIY Chalet

Ever dream of having your own warm nook to watch the winter weather go by?

HomeScope

Sylvia Putz

metronews.ca/homescope

fondues, après ski.

The idea of a rustic chalet may seem cheesy, and I can concur that I've seen some pretty dated, kitschy-looking chalets. But it doesn't have to be tacky. It can, in fact, be spectacular.

If you're a winter-lover and you do end up with a chalet (you never know) — do one thing for me: Don't attempt the faux Swiss look. The thing about a chalet is that it should launch you into the great wintery outdoors in your own locality, and guess what? You don't live in Switzerland.

Instead, use local materials to make the connection to the environment just outside your window, such as stone for the fireplace, and local wood for panelling. That way, it looks as if it belongs.

Keep the look light and airy, and avoid fussy or formal finishes. Use muted tones or white on the wall. Avoid too much dark or vibrant colour, or bright, shiny finishes. Remember a chalet should be simple and casual, a place to focus on relaxation and the great outdoors.

Avoid "art" or too many



Rustic wood and deep warm colours are perfect for your own chalet.

decorations — informal, locally-themed items, such as framed local ski trail maps or antique ski posters or photos are best.

Rustic wood (usually cedar or pine) on the walls has traditionally been used to give a "chalet feel". To avoid a dated look, try using it horizontally as wainscoting, or panel the ceiling. Exposed wooden ceiling or support beams in natural wood continue to look great.

Casual wooden furniture and cabinets in natural, lightly stained or whitewashed wood is a good choice. Weathered barnboard can look sharp when combined with other natural finishes such as non-polished limestone, slate or soapstone.

Upholstery and other fabrics (drapes, rugs) add warmth, especially if warm, rich colours are used. Checks and stripes or subtle plaids work, as



do muted solids. Use plenty of throws and cushions on sofas and armchairs.

Hard-wearing stone or porcelain in natural textures and colours works well in the entrance area. Rustic wood flooring with plenty of rugs in simple patterns work everywhere else.

If you are involved in designing a chalet — lucky you, here are some ideas:

- Chalets were originally built with steep-sided roofs so snow would slide off. The delightful result is a central space with a high ceiling and a spacious open feel.

- Big picture windows (facing south, preferably) allow you to appreciate the winter wonderland.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show *Arresting Design*; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

Cost-effective reno solutions

HOME RENO Completing a renovation project is now affordable for all your home renovation needs. Why? Because Natural Resources Canada is offering ecoENERGY retrofit rebates, as well as additional provincial grants, to offset your home renovation costs for 2010. If you have been delaying renovations due to a lack of time and budget, now you can ease your worries and finish projects to help increase the value and comfort of your home.

"It is a great time to take advantage of the government grants available for renovation projects to improve the quality of your home," says David Flood, insulation expert at Owens Corning. "Examine the areas of the home that may need maintaining or upgrading, like window and door replacement or added insulation."

If you want to take advantage of these grants, but are wondering which renovation project to tackle first, consider home upgrades that will increase your home's energy efficiency. Added insulation is a welcome renovation to any home, a way to reduce energy consumption and improve homeowner savings when it comes to heating and cooling bills. Whether in your attic or your basement or everywhere in between, Owens Corning has a list of products available for every home renovation need.

NEWS CANADA

Chalet tips

- A large front closet or storeroom with plenty of hooks to dry out and store all things recreational is a must to avoid messy clutter in the front hall.
- If you plan to entertain a lot, extra sleeping space and a bathroom for guests is handy, as well as a kitchen with plenty of counter space.
- An outdoor hot tub, if you can do it, is a fabulous indulgence.
- A large and well-appointed bathroom is one feature that is always appreciated. A Jacuzzi tub or a sauna to help work out aches and pains after a day on the slopes is luxury. If you splurge anywhere, it should be here.

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Designer Vera Wang debuted her "The Bride Wore Black" collection this week at New York Fashion Week. Wang said she was drawn to the colour (or non-colour, as it may be) because it's "a contemporary metaphor for youth, romance and sophistication." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Style

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA



Joe.ca gets web-savvy

Joe just got fresher with an updated website set to launch next Thursday. It will feature a host of features, including the Joe Fresh Life Blog, daily polls and downloadable tools such as a free outfit assembly iPhone application (see left) and a fashion forecast widget (for daily wardrobe recommendations). The site — which will also include a more pop-art feel — will also unveil feature pieces from the spring 2010 collection. **METRO NEWS SERVICE**

Mix & match

Layering and the merging of materials are strong trends on New York Fashion Week 2010 runways

Can't decide what to wear? Pile it all on.

Layering was a key trend at New York Fashion Week with a mix of fabrics that created a textured look. A few designers like Peter Som and Alexander Wang showed models who looked like they'd thrown on everything in the closet all at once.

Another trend was the contrasting sleeve, using a different material than the rest of the outfit, a look featured at Chris Benz and Derek Lam, among other shows.

Rodarte

The theme of this collection was the hazy state of consciousness that comes between sleep and being awake. Lovely, lace-draped dresses in a light, almost dusty palette captured the feeling of vin-

tage lingerie and wallpaper prints, but there was something weighing on them, too — a seriousness, a respect.

The chunky knits, sometimes with yarn fringe, were just on the right side of looking well loved and worn in, yet luxurious in a way that a designer collection demands.

Elie Tahari

Enough with dressing down, declared Elie Tahari this week at NYFW. "The customer is looking for glamorous clothes. People want to dress up and look good," the designer said. For his collection, Tahari drew inspiration from the chic traveler. "She mixes textures, furs and wears hot over-the-knee boots. It's all the texture and layers that makes it interesting and



look new and exciting," he said in an interview.

The layering piece of choice was a long, lean vest, sometimes in wool, sometimes in fur. It could be worn over just about anything from denim to dresses.

Dresses were cut a little closer to the body, perfect to fit under the asymmetrical wool coat with ruffles running vertically

down one side or the fur trench.

Nicole Miller

Nicole Miller must have always had a tough spirit inside her — how else could she have lasted so long in the fashion business? — but it's only in her most recent collections that you see that aggressiveness in the clothes.

The scarf-print dresses of yesteryear are gone, replaced by body-hugging dresses, biker shorts and leather leggings.

Seemingly second-skin dresses with tightly pleated tulle might be intimidating to a wearer at first, but probably are quite flattering.

"Black is the signature colour; also camouflage and hints of brick, olive and ash with abstracted references to New York," Miller wrote in her notes.

Zac Posen

Zac Posen, the former flashy showman, who has recently chronicled in the press his struggles to lead a viable business, turned out a mostly understated, chic collection.

As wild as it got here were some copper metallics, pink-dot prints and magenta-coloured fur.

One of the best looks of Posen's was a longer-length magenta velvet jacket with grosgrain trim, a black silk blouse and a short, magenta godet skirt that gave just a little lift to the silhouette.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS & THE CANADIAN PRESS

Layering and contrasting fabrics were strong themes at New York Fashion Week. The Rodarte collection, left, showcased this trend with lots of chunky knits. Meanwhile, contrasting sleeves showed up in the Nicole Miller show, right.

I give

Colin MacDonald

Donor



iwkstories.com

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Peacock earring with diamonds, sapphires and garnets, JDJ Jewellery (\$13,500, jdj-jewellery.com)



Ginseng bangle, Swarovski (\$500, swarovski.ca)

Reindeer games

• The Winter Olympics will have a fashion undercurrent this year thanks to Ralph Lauren who has created a winter collection dedicated to the 2010 games. His eponymous brand has also outfitted the American team including the figure skaters, bobsledders and skiers, among others. But no matter what country you're rooting for, this ivory reindeer sweater (\$398) will keep you warm and stylish as you watch athletes compete for the gold.

KENYA HUNT/
METRO WORLD NEWS



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H&M

Laurie Metcalf intends to make *Strange Brew*. She will star in the Fox comedy pilot about a mother of four who must balance her recent sobriety with her duties for the family-run company: A brewery. **TVGUIDE.COM**

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONWS.CA

☆☆☆☆ A CLASSIC; ☆☆☆☆ EXCELLENT; ☆☆☆ GOOD; ☆☆☆ FAIR; ☆☆☆ POOR

Page steps out of comfort zone

Art Of Time Ensemble With Steven Page

Album: A Singer Must Die
Label: Phormone Records
Rating: ☆☆☆

AN ONGOING CONCEPT, Toronto's Art Of Time Ensemble commingle

classical abilities with contemporary music and popular artists — this time former Barenaked Lady Steven Page — to re-imagine a number of songs. With *A Singer Must Die*, the collective's take on Page's selections are broad and sincere. The Mountain Goats' *Lion's* Teeth boasts bold theatricality, Elvis Costello's *I*

Want You is serene while grandiose best defines Page's own *Running Out Of Ink*. Yes, some tracks are outright odd (Weak-erthans/Radiohead) with Page reaching beyond his abilities and the ensemble becoming too extravagant but overall the union works, pushing Page outside of comfort zones.

Keith Carman/for Metro Canada

Peter Gabriel

Album: Scratch My Back
Label: Universal
Rating: ☆☆☆

AFTER GIVING US only two albums in the last 20 years, Peter Gabriel's



Former Barenaked Ladies frontman Steven Page teamed up with the Art Of Time Ensemble for his solo project, *A Singer Must Die*.

fans may be wondering why they had to wait so long for an album of covers. But after surprising people last year by name-dropping himself on his cover of Vampire Weekend's *Cape Cod Kwassa*

Kwassa, Gabriel finishes the job with songs by Arcade Fire, Radiohead, Bon Iver and Magnetic Fields, along with oldies like Lou Reed and Neil Young. Gabriel's quest for relevance produces some in-

teresting and even arresting results, but hearing one dour, orchestral arrangement after another fails to match the monkey-shocking range of his past. A disappointment considering the potential.

Cam Lindsay/for Metro Canada

Yukon Blonde

Album: Yukon Blonde
Label: Nevada
Rating: ☆☆☆

COUNTLESS BANDS TRY to pull off CSNY, but only few do it well.

Luckily, Vancouver's Yukon Blonde pull it off. Their lush harmonies and infectious pop definitely



Lucky number

Taylor Swift is "obsessed" with the number 13. The hitmaker has reportedly been talked out of getting a tattoo of her favourite digit etched onto her arm.

FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Metro Twitter

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• Starting today follow Metro's music writers across the country on Twitter at @TheMetroMusic.

take a page from the '60s stars, but they tackle Sloan, Midlake and other catchy rock acts too. It's all singable stuff, but Blood Cops, with its soaring Thrush Hermit-like chorus and layered "la la" vocals is a must hear.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

More albums

• Read more album reviews at metronews.ca/music.

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
2/18/10	31	31	31	ABC News Center 5	World News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	The Deep End (N)		Grey's Anatomy (N)		Private Pract.
prime time	7	7	7	ASN XXI Winter Olympics Hockey, Snowboarding, Figure Skating, Medal Ceremonies. (Live)								
	11	11	11	CBC Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Nature of Things (N)		Tasered (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	2	2	2	CBC-F Pyramid (SC)	Union-force	Virginie (SC)	Infoman (SC)	Enquête (HDTV) (SC)		3600 secondes d'extase (SC)		Le Téléjournal
	32	32	32	CBS WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains		The Mentalist (HDTV)		CSI: Cri. Scene
	69	69	69	CTM TVA nouvelles	Le Cercle (SC)	La Série Montréal-Québec (N)		Dieu merci! (N) (SC)		Juste pour rire (N) (SC)		TVA nouvelles
	6	6	6	CJCH Entertainment	ET Canada	90210 (HDTV)		Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains		The Office		News Final (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH XXI Winter Olympics Hockey, Snowboarding, Figure Skating, Medal Ceremonies. (Live)								
	10	10	10	ELTV (6) EastLink Television	Weaving-Story	EastLink TV	Podium TV			Community Matters		
	36	36	36	FOX Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bones (HDTV PA)		Past Life "Soul Music"		Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC News (N)	NBC News	Access H	Olympic Zone	XXI Winter Olympics Figure Skating, Snowboarding, Speed Skating.		CBC News: The National		Nature/ Things
	29	29	29	NW (6) Power & Politics		Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				For Love-Liberty: Story-America		
	4	4	4	PBS-B PBS NewsHour (N)	Greater Boston	Basic Black		Looking for Lincoln		This Old H'se		S Holmes
	35	35	35	PBS-D PBS NewsHour (N)	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus		Old House	Hometime			
	68	68	68	TQS A comm	Jeux olympiques d'hiver: Vancouver 2010 Surf des neiges, patinage artistique, hockey masculin.							
	23	23	23	BNN Business News	Headline	Market Call Tonight		GetConnected	Market Call	Squeeze Play		Business News
	18	18	18	CNN (6) The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer				Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Cooper 360
	54	54	54	GOLF Golf Central	PGA Tour Golf	Mayakoba Classic, First Round.				PGA Tour Golf		
	52	52	52	RSE XXI Winter Olympics Hockey, Curling, Figure Skating. (HDTV) (Live)								
	55	55	55	SCOR HSR	Covers Experts	Score Today	FullTiltPoker.net Million			World Poker Tour		Hardcore Champ. Fight
	45	45	45	SPD Unique Whips		Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Pinks Outtakes		Bullrun (N)
	53	53	53	TSN XXI Winter Olympics Curling, Figure Skating, Hockey, Curling, Figure Skating: Free Skate, Men's; Hockey, Men's: Slovakia vs. Russia.								
	43	43	43	FAM Han, Montana	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han, Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz		Ned's School
	44	44	44	TOON Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Stoked	Total Drama	Majority Rules	6TEEN (N)	Futurama		Planet of Apes
	26	26	26	TREE Wonder Pets	3rd and Bird	Backyardigans	Night Garden	Waybuloo	Franklin	Little Bear		Babar
	27	27	27	YTV iCarly	To Be Indie	Fries That?	Prank Patrol	The Next Star "16 to 6"		Prank Patrol		Family Biz
	16	16	16	A&E The First 48 (HDTV)				The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV) (N)		Manhunters
	70	70	70	APTN Flame	Years	XXI Winter Olympics		XXI Winter Olympics Hockey. (Live)				Double Jody
	50	50	50	BET 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (N)				Michael Vick	Michael Vick	Unbreakable ** (2000, Suspense)		
	37	37	37	BRVO Emily of New Moon		Storytellers	PhotoXplorers	Innovators	Writers	Lucid ** (2005, Mystery)		
	25	25	25	CMT Star Crossed	Star Crossed	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim		Home Improve.
	49	49	49	COM Just for Laughs		Al Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons		Martin
	153	153	153	COCT Truth, Duty, Valour		Navy SEALs: Untold Stories		Crimie Files	Dumb Criminal	Psychic Detect		Navy SEALs
	38	38	38	DISC Cash Cab	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Alaska: Most Extreme		Arctic Roughnecks		MythBusters
	34	34	34	HGTV Extreme Makeover: Home		House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes Inspection		House-Bryan		House Hunters
	46	46	46	HIST Ancestors	Ancestors	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Ancient Discoveries		Ancestors		Nostradamus
	17	17	17	MM (6) MOD Live at the Base		So You Think You Can Dance				So You Think You Can Dance		At the Base
	19	19	19	MMM mmtop10.ca		The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Bono and the Edge		Entourage
	201	201	201	M1 (6:30) Spring Breakdown		The Brothers Bloom ** (2008, Comedy-Drama)				Management (2008, Romance-Comedy)		
	48	48	48	OLN Mantracker		(7:59) XXI Winter Olympics Skeleton. From Vancouver, B.C. Skeleton: men's and women's. (Live)						
	51	51	51	PEACH Friends	Name Is Earl	Family Guy	Family Guy	House/Payne	House/Payne	Law & Order: Special Victims		Blade: Trinity
	206	206	206	PIX (6) Runaway Train		Shane **** (1953, Western) Alan Ladd, Jean Arthur.				A Time to Kill *** (1996, Drama)		
	67	67	67	RDI RDI monde	RDI économie	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie
	39	39	39	SHOW Trailer Park	Wedding SOS	Rich Bride Poor Bride		X-Weighted		Bootcamp		Re-Vamped
	40	40	40	SLICE What Happen?		Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Smallville "Crossfire"		Lost (N)
	47	47	47	SPACE Stargate SG-1		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		UFC Unleashed		TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (N)		
	14	14	14	SPIKE etalk	TMZ (N)	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		Dr. Oz Show
	21	21	21	TLN LA Ink (HDTV)		LA Ink (HDTV)		LA Ink (HDTV)		LA Ink (HDTV)		LA Ink
	56	56	56	34 TROP Planet Soap	Comeback	Reality	Whatever	Family Guy	Family Guy	Seinfeld		70s Show
	20	20	20	TV5 Que-champion	Journal de F2	Aquitaine, de la vague à l'ame		Planète muscle		Seinfeld		Humanima
	28	28	28	W Ekhyaa - A Family Chronicle		Murder, She Wrote		On the Buses	Watchtower	Great Expectations ** (1998, Drama)		
	60	60	60	97 VIVA Da Vinci's Inquiry		Cold Case		Missing A bus disappears.		The Closer		Cold Case
	22	22	22	W House-Sell	House-Sell	Supernanny		Love It or List It		Confidential		Divine Design
	251	251	251	WGN WGN Evening News		Two/Half Men	Family Guy	The Vampire Diaries		Supernatural (HDTV)		WGN News

critics' corner

Management

Jennifer Aniston probably is used to being the object of many people's attention, but she's mostly the target of only one — a smitten motel worker played by Steve Zahn — in this comedy from writer-director Stephen Belber. After her saleswoman character stays at his establishment, he follows her home, determined to win her heart ... despite her former beau's (Woody Harrelson) re-entry into her life. 10 PM on M1



XXI Winter Olympics

Tonight in Vancouver, hardware is doled out in men's figure skating, in which 19-year-old Ottawa native and 2009 world silver medalist Patrick Chan hopes to emerge from a wide open pond. In men's hockey, Sidney Crosby and the Canadian team figure to make easy work of Switzerland, while elsewhere on the ice, Kevin Martin and the Canada men's curling team goes up against Sweden. 7 PM on ASN, CJCH

The Nature of Things

The new episode "Uakari: Secrets of the Red Monkey" follows scientist Mark Bowler into the Peruvian rain forest in search of an elusive creature that has never been filmed in the wild. Uakari monkeys live high in the trees and play a key role in the rain forest's ecosystem, as they are the only creatures that can release the seedpods of the aguaje palm, an important part of many species' diets. 8 PM on CBC

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Erecting a movie deal

The Meccano Toy Company, maker of the Erector Set, has signed a licensing deal to make a 3-D movie based on their 100-year-old toy. Meccano inked a deal with indie film company Helix Films, which is now currently developing a script. **EW.COM**



GETTY IMAGES

Documentary filmmaker Lucy Walker travelled to the largest landfill on Earth.

Rethinking the trash dilemma in Berlin

NED EHRBAR
for Metro World News



Documentary filmmaker Lucy Walker's 2010 is off to a great start. Her latest work, *Waste Land*, won the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival last month, even though the film was finished mere hours before screening. *Waste Land* follows artist Vik Muniz as he creates art from Jardim Gramacho, the world's largest landfill on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, transforming the lives of some of the site's workers in the process. Walker spoke with Metro while presenting her film at the Berlinale film festival.

Q You finished the film just in time for Sundance?

A I think technically we didn't finish. At our first screening here there were no subtitles on the end scene, where (documentary subject) Tiao says, "We don't pick garbage. We pick recycled materials, which can be reused" — which normally brings the house down as a punch line. I was watching it thinking, why are people not reacting? Oh, wait, because there are no subtitles.

Q Tiao and the workers in the film are really amazing.

A I know, right? It's like Shakespeare

wrote them, or something, right?

We were expecting these sort of flesh-eating zombies, not even human, sort of sci-fi garbage monsters. And then you get there and you find the coolest people ever. I love how different they all are, as well. It's like a great force of resistance to generalization. They're all really different people with different experiences.

Q Were you nervous about going to the world's largest trash dump?

A We got every inoculation possible. Our medical bill was, like, half the budget. We're going to Brazil. On the map at the travel vaccination service, Brazil has every disease you can get vaccinated against. And then you tell them, "Oh yeah, I'm going to be working in the garbage dump," and they open up a whole other map and a whole other cupboard of vaccines. By the time we got there we couldn't move our arms. And then you get there and after half an hour you go, "Wait. Everyone's healthy."

Q The film raises an interesting question about showing these people a different life and then returning them to where you found them.

A I love that the question is there for the audience to

talk about. We're not hiding it. I think that on balance, so many beautiful and good things have come out of this. This was an amazing collaboration, and the way it's all worked out feels so beautiful now. But transformation is really hard, and change always brings suffering as well as fresh opportunity. And if you grow, you don't necessarily fit back to where you were before.

Q What have you learned from doing this project?

A One very basic, practical point is this point about recycling.

We became vigilant recyclers — not that we weren't before.

But now, when you're really forced to think about it, how can you not become more responsible when you become more aware?

That definitely happened to us, big-time.

International film fare served up at the 60th Berlinale festival

NED EHRBAR
for Metro World News



FILM FESTIVAL Competition is heating up at the 60th annual Berlinale as more films enjoy world premieres and vie for recognition at the festival's closing night awards gala Saturday.

Among the high profile films in competition to hit the red carpet were Norway's *A Somewhat Gentle Man*, a stark comedy starring Stellan Skarsgård that's garnering rave reviews, and American director Nicole Holofcener's *Please Give*, starring Amanda Peet and Catherine Keener.

Also premiering at the festival,

though not in competition, is Jackie Chan's latest adventure film from China, *Little Big Soldier*. The story, thought up by Chan more than 20 years ago, follows a bumbling soldier and a general he takes captive in war-torn China in 220 B.C. The actor, who also produced the film and directed the action sequences, sees the film as both entertainment and a call for peace around the world.

Chan's 2010 is already off to a busy start, after last month's *The Spy Next Door* and this month's premiere. He'll be seen later this year in a remake of *The Karate Kid*. But the 55-year-old Chinese star insists he's now looking for more message-oriented

"I don't know if it's a problem with ADD in the United States, but people do not get up half as much during movies here. I was in a challenging, beautiful, really long and gentle Taiwanese film today, and no one moved."

Debra Granik
film maker and
Grand Jury Prize
winner at Sundance

fare at this point in his career.

"I don't make films to make money," he said. "I have enough money. I want to make films that say something."

The 60th annual festival has also seen the European premieres of several favourites from the Sundance Film Festival in Utah last month, including Lucy Walker's documentary *Waste Land*, which won the Audience Award at Sundance, and Debra Granik's Grand Jury Prize winner *Winter's Bone*.

After only a couple of days in Berlin, Granik has already noticed differences between U.S. and European audiences. "I don't know if it's a problem with ADD in the United States, but people do not get up half as much during movies here," Granik said.

"I was in a challenging, beautiful, really long and gentle Taiwanese film today, and no one moved."

German film challenges norms in the Islamic faith

NEW FILM A first-time German director's film about Muslims struggling to come to terms with unwanted pregnancy, homosexuality and other challenges to their beliefs debuted yesterday at the

Berlin film festival.

Shahada, or Faith, is one of 20 movies in the festival's main competition. The first feature film from Burhan Qurbani, a 29-year-old German Muslim. "I wanted to show in my

film that Muslims and Islam are not only one face, Arabic, (with a) beard, but it's really colourful," the director said of the variety of characters in his film.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taryn Manning is the latest to sign on to CBS' Hawaii Five-O remake. Manning joins previously announced stars Alex O'Loughlin and Lost's Daniel Dae Kim. **TVGUIDE.COM**

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Judges, from left, Simon Cowell, Ellen DeGeneres, Kara DioGuardi and Randy Jackson hold court on Fox TV's American Idol.

Judges send 7 to Idol's Top 24 heaven

TALENT CONTEST Seven American Idol contestants can stop worrying, for now: They're in the top 24.

The Fox TV singing contest revealed the first of the lucky semifinalists on Tuesday's show. They are: Didi Benami, 23, of Los Angeles; Lee Dewezye, 23, Mount Prospect, Ill.; Kate-lyn Epperly, 19, West Des Moines, Iowa; Aaron Kelly, 16, Sonestown, Pa.; Casey James, 27, Fort Worth, Texas; Todrick Hall, 24, Arlington, Texas; and Michael "Big Mike" Lynche, 26, of Astoria, N.Y.

The other 17 semifinalists chosen by the show's four-judge panel were set to be revealed on Wednesday's episode in the culmination of Hollywood Week auditions.

Sentiment ruled Tuesday among the few who emerged from the remaining field of 71 contestants.

Lynche, who last week was shown listening in by cellphone as his wife gave birth to their daughter, had a message for the newborn: "Coming to take care of you. Big Daddy's coming."

Benami said she was competing with an "angel" on her side, her late best friend.

"She would have wanted to do this so much, and she never got the chance to. And I have the chance to do this," said Benami, who wept when the judges gave her a thumbs-up.

The judges, including newcomer Ellen DeGeneres, also ended dreams Tuesday. Some took it better than others.

"It wasn't my time right now," said a composed Shelby Dressel of Avon Park, Fla. The 19-year-old, who was born with partial facial paralysis, added: "Let people see, regardless of any insecurity, just be you."

Simon Cowell, marking his ninth and final season as judge, responded with an unusual flash of regret. "It's the wrong decision," he murmured.

Jessica Furney, 21, of Wamego, Kan., made a less graceful exit.

"I can do this. Do not send me home. I have it," pleaded Furney, who tried out last season as well.

The judges attempted to soothe her, with DeGeneres suggesting it wasn't the end of the road for her career. Furney was unmoved.

"How do you know that?" she demanded.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McQueen hanged himself

Coroner's inquest points to designer's suicide

Alexander McQueen hanged himself in his apartment on the eve of his mother's funeral after leaving behind a note, a coroner's inquest said yesterday in the first confirmation of details of the fashion designer's death.

The inquest — which has yet to formally rule McQueen's death a suicide — opened as London Fashion Week prepared to mark the passing of one of British fashion's brightest stars.

Coroner's official Lynda

Martindill told the inquest at Westminster Coroners Court that 40-year-old McQueen died from asphyxiation and hanging.

Days before his body was found last Thursday, McQueen had left several messages on the social networking site Twitter revealing his grief at the death of his mother days earlier.

The designer's body was found in the armoire at his London apartment and was formally identified by his sister, Janet.

Police detective inspector Paul Armstrong told the inquest there were no suspicious circumstances.

After a five-minute hearing, coroner Paul Knapman adjourned the inquest until April 28. McQueen's family, who are now free to hold the designer's funeral, issued a statement through their lawyers appealing to the media to respect their privacy.

In Britain, inquests are held whenever someone dies violently or in unex-



Alexander McQueen

plained circumstances.

McQueen's death has cast a shadow over London Fashion Week, which opens Friday. A spokeswoman said the event would feature a tribute to the designer, whose attention-grabbing designs helped re-energize British fashion after a fallow period following the punk explosion in the 1970s.

"There will be something simple and tasteful," she said. "The time for memorials will be later in the year."

She spoke on condition of anonymity because organizers are waiting for McQueen's family to approve the tribute.

Known for his dramatic statement pieces and impeccable tailoring, McQueen dressed celebrities from Cameron Diaz to Lady Gaga and influenced a generation of designers.

The son of a cab driver, McQueen grew up on a public housing estate in London's East End, left school at 16 and entered the fashion world the old-fashioned way, as a teenage apprentice to a Saville Row tailor.

He later studied at Central St. Martin's art college in London and was discovered by fashion guru Isabella Blow, who bought his entire graduation collection. She became a friend and mentor; her suicide three years ago shook the designer, who wept openly at her funeral.

McQueen was a private man who avoided the limelight but his Twitter postings show emotional turmoil after his mother's death on Feb. 2. McQueen had posted messages four days before his death about his "awful week," and said he had to "somehow pull myself together and finish."

His mother's funeral was held the day after McQueen died.

Friends also said he might have felt under pressure to outdo himself at the unveiling of his spring collection in Paris next month. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

If you treat your friend to a better cup of coffee do you still owe them money?

Use the coupon above to find out.

SECOND CUP

'Heartless jerks': Palin's daughter to Family Guy

Sarah Palin is lashing out at the portrayal of a character with Down syndrome on the Fox animated comedy Family Guy.

In a Facebook posting headlined "Fox Hollywood — What a Disappointment," the 2008 Republican vice-presidential nominee and current Fox News contributor said Sunday night's episode felt like

"another kick in the gut." Palin's youngest son, Trig, has Down syndrome.

The episode features the character Chris falling for a girl with Down syndrome. On a date, he asks what her parents do.

She replies: "My dad's an accountant, and my mom is the former governor of Alaska."

Palin resigned as Alaska

governor last summer.

Palin's oldest daughter, Bristol, also was quoted on her mother's Facebook page, calling the show's writers "heartless jerks."

"When you're the son or



Palin

daughter of a public figure, you have to develop thick skin. My siblings and I all have that, but insults directed at our youngest brother hurt too much for us to remain silent," she is quoted as saying.

"If the writers of a particularly pathetic cartoon show thought they were being clever in mocking my brother and my family yes-

"(Family Guy episode) another kick in the gut."

Sarah Palin

terday, they failed," Bristol Palin added in the Monday posting. "All they proved is that they're heartless jerks." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Pairing problems

Ever wonder what food goes with what wine? A new website makes it easy to properly pair your meal with wine. The site offers you lots of options in a handy drop down menu and suggestions on what works best. foodandwinepairing.org. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Urban Foodie

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lickthebone.com

Rating: *****
Signature Dish: Ribs
Signature Drink: Propeller beer
Dinner & drinks for two: \$50

The newly-opened Boneheads is a happening place.

On this Friday evening it's full of loud and happy students eating in and awaiting take-out.

We order at the counter where we see the cooking staff in action — they're as content as the patrons.

Everything comes in take-out boxes with plastic cutlery.

Boneheads is super casual.

Smokehouse Wings (\$8.99) have no batter and are meaty and flavourful — among the best wings in town.

Southside Links (\$15.99) include large greasy sausages with a side of delicious cornbread and yummy red cabbage and apple coleslaw.

Our two chosen extra sides are the spicy Caribbean seasoned "dirty rice" and a huge pile of

On the web

• Get recipes and more great food content at metronews.ca/recipes

home-cut steaming hot fries.

The Half Slab Baby Back Ribs (\$15.99) are our only disappointment. The flavour is smoky but they're ho-hum and a bit dry. My side Mac and Cheese is tasty while the Garden Salad is remarkably fresh and its chipotle dressing a real treat.

Our main dishes are substantial so we don't really need the wings, but now we know we want to come back for more.



Smokehouse Wings (\$8.99)

Dining out

MARGARITAS MAKE A MOVE Mexicali Rosa's has moved down the street to 5472 Spring Garden Rd., formerly the Thirsty Duck and for a while Minstrels. The popular Margarita Mondays will continue. For information, visit mexicalirosas.com or call 422-7672.

FOOD WITH A VIEW Sou'West'er Restaurant at Peggy's Cove, a great place for a winter sunset: open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Delicious seafood chowder and homemade gingerbread! Visit peggys-cove.com or call (902) 823-2349. **METRO HALIFAX**

In brief

PEN TO PALATE A Cookbook Signing featuring Nova Scotia chefs and writers Craig Flinn, Michael Howell, Sean Buckland, Gary Walsh, Maureen Tilley and Kyla Pierik takes place this Sunday at Pete's Frootique, Dresden Row, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

CHINESE NEW YEAR A banquet, Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront, \$75/person; Reception: 6 p.m., Dinner/entertainment: 6:45; Dance: 9 p.m. Tickets: Halifax Atlantic Eye Center, 5689 Spring Garden Rd., or by calling George Kwan 434-3885, or Jinyu Sheng, 445-3051.

CONTEST you can win dinners for two just by entering at halfaxdining.ca. Three winners are drawn each Monday at 2 p.m. and no purchase is necessary to win. You have seven days to claim your prize and 30 days to use it.

METRO HALIFAX

Global Peasant blog online

• Travel along with Diane Thompson's culinary adventures in her Global Peasant blog.

• Check out metronews.ca/globalpeasant for a recipe of elk and oysters.



GET THE HOTTEST TICKETS IN TOWN THIS FEBRUARY!

Savour food & wine

Pen to Palate
a cookbook signing featuring NS Chefs
Sunday, February 21, 2-4 pm
Pete's Frootique, Dresden Row
Tickets \$79¹⁵¹

westcoast wine & food
4 courses 8 wines
saturday, feb 20
6:30 pm at the Delta Halifax
FREE event

Savour food & wine
February 25th at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront
The most mingle-licious event of the year!
Tickets \$79¹⁵¹

Ward off winter's chill with these hot tickets — the incredibly edible events of the annual SAVOUR food & wine festival. Visit eDining.ca for details!

visit eDining.ca or call 429-5343 ext 1 for tickets

Logos: TRANS, AMERICAN BOOKSTORES, NOVA SCOTIA Agriculture, NOVA SCOTIA Fisheries and Aquaculture, Marriott HALIFAX HARBOURFRONT, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Canada

2 for 1 Pastas

are back at Dofsky's Friday nights!

Some conditions apply.



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- LARA RIPLEY**
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NEXT WEEK'S TOP 5 — CATERERS

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Tila Tequila and ex-boyfriend Shawne Merriman have settled their legal disputes with each other, femalefirst.co.uk reports. Tequila had accused the San Diego Chargers footballer of assaulting her during an altercation at his home in November. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Locking up every juicy detail

SO THERE ARE WORSE THINGS BEYOND THE HEAD SHAVING, UNDERWEAR SWIMMING AND DRIVING WITH HER BABY IN HER LAP? AWESOME Lawyers for Britney Spears are working to have medical records and other personal information for the singer and her two young sons sealed, according-

ing to legal papers obtained by TMZ. "Photographs and personal information, particularly information of a highly confidential nature (such as personal medical information of Ms. Spears and her children), can potentially reap thousands if not millions of dollars," the documents state. "The possibility of such enormous profits presents a substantial risk that Ms. Spears' most confidential medical and personal information will be disclosed."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Simon calls Mezhgan over

10 POINTS IF YOU CAN SAY HER NAME CORRECTLY ON THE FIRST TRY Looks like Simon Cowell finally found someone who can tolerate his criticisms, as the American Idol judge reportedly proposed to girlfriend Mezhgan Hussainy on Valentine's Day, according

to Australia's Herald Sun. "Simon may come across as Mr. Nasty on screen but he's a big softie at heart," a source says. "He wanted to do something unexpected and out of character on Valentine's Day and decided to splash out on a ring."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Gerard does the mambo

HORIZONTAL OR NOT A week after celebrating Jennifer Aniston's birthday in Mexico, Gerard Butler was spotted all over Rio de Janeiro this week for Carnival with a selection of attractive women, sources tell Page Six.

First there was a Brazilian soap star and Rita Guedes, followed by a sequin-clad

brunette and newly single Pussycat Dolls singer Nicole Scherzinger, whom Butler chatted up on the beach. While in Brazil, the Scotsman also managed to find time to socialize with Madonna and her companion, Jesus Luz.

METRO WORLD NEWS

A simple wedding

FITTING, AS THEY'RE JUST A COUPLE OF HUMBLE COUNTRY FOLK If you are hoping for an over-the-top platinum wedding when Nicole Richie and Joel Madden tie the knot this summer, you should think again. Friends of the couple tell popeater.com to expect a simple classic ceremony — with no Paris Hilton in sight. "Nicole wants to keep the ceremony to close friends

and family. It will be traditional with a simple white dress and very private," a Richie pal told the website. "Lionel Richie will give her away. However,

old BFF Paris Hilton will not be a bridesmaid." The couple, who have been dating since December 2006, are said to have decided it was time to say "I do" following the tragic death of Richie's childhood friend, Casey Johnson. "The awful event made Nicole realize how happy she was being a mother and how happy she will be to finally call herself a wife," a source added.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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CelebTweets

LINDSAY LOHAN has her coping techniques, **DANNY MASTERTON** is reminiscing, **NEIL GAIMAN** is trying to pace himself, and **NEIL DIAMOND** is looking for a little help. @lindsaylohan ignoring real world issues/reality @dannymasterton I miss heath ledger. @neilhimself Knocking off early, otherwise I'll get further into this script and look up and it'll be 6 am again. G'night all & bald Watcher on the Moon. @NeilDiamond Anybody out there got a funny joke I can send in one tweet?

METRO WORLD NEWS

Their living arrangements are still under review

YET MORE TIGER GOSSIP As much as she's said to be interested in fixing their marriage, Elin Nordegren isn't quite ready to move back into Tiger Woods' Florida home, sources tell Radar Online.

"Tiger wants her to move back home with him but so far she has said no," the source says. "She's not ready and she just doesn't trust him."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Nothing gonna keep her down

NOT EVEN A JERKY EX BOYFRIEND. YOU GO, GIRL! Rihanna thinks people perceive her to be a "b—," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer says her shy side is often mistaken for rudeness because she isn't always open and chatty when she meets new people.

"I don't really open up to a lot of people, usually I go very quiet," she told WPGC

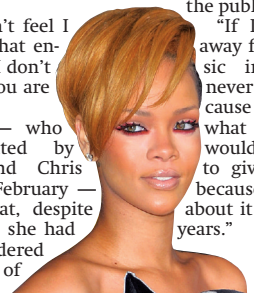
radio. "I just don't feel I have to be that enthusiastic if I don't know who you are yet."

Rihanna — who was assaulted by then-boyfriend Chris Brown last February — also said that, despite the incident, she had never considered stepping out of

the public eye.

"If I could step away from the music industry? I'd never do that because I really love what I do and it would be a shame to give this away because I dreamt about it for so many years."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Ex president Bill Clinton is his idol

BUT FOR HIS CIGAR HOLDING NOT HIS POLITICS Frederic von Anhalt, self-proclaimed European royalty and Zsa Zsa Gabor's eighth husband, is planning to run for governor of California, according

to the Associated Press. "I went through lots of things, lots of scandals, but that was yesterday, that's old news," von Anhalt says. "Look at what Bill Clinton did in the White House. That was bad,

but he got away with it. America gives you a break."

If elected, he says he will legalize marijuana and prostitution and lift the ban on Cuban cigars.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Marriage: great for your sex life

THERE'S NOTHING HOTTER THAN FARTING IN BED AND FLOSSING YOUR TEETH TOGETHER Valentine's Day apparently isn't over yet. Celebrating her first wedding anniversary next month, newlywed Natasha Bedingfield is "loving" being a Mrs. and

enjoying the perks of being married — including a steamy sex life, reports people.com

"The best thing about being a married woman is sleeping naked everyday," Bedingfield said. And still liking the guy that I'm with."

Though clothing may be optional for the British singer-songwriter, 28, she says the romance between her and California businessman husband Matthew Robinson is spicier than ever.

"He keeps the romance alive," she added.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Mayer won't be jumping on Oprah's couch

DID ANYONE ACTUALLY READ THE ORIGINAL ARTICLE? CONTEXT, PEOPLE John Mayer may need to rehabilitate his image after his remarkably candid Playboy interview, but he won't be able to do it on Oprah Winfrey's couch. "Oprah is the smartest

person on TV and will not let John use her or her show to ask for forgiveness," sources tell Popeater.

"If John really wants to apologize for his racist and sex-

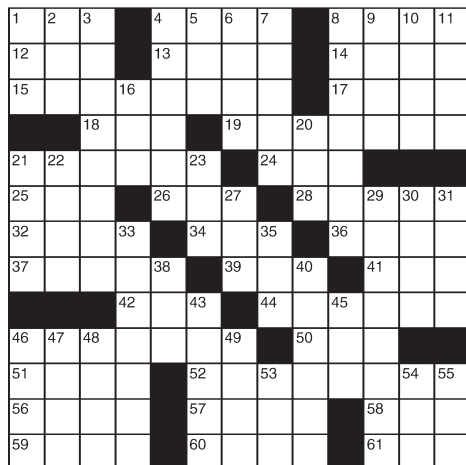
ist comments, he should find somewhere else. The only way Oprah, who is a dear friend of Jennifer Aniston, would ever book him is if John were interested in having a much deeper conversation about race, women and fame."

METRO WORLD NEWS





For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food



ACROSS

- 1 Suitable
- 4 Seven Dwarfs' workplace
- 8 Family-biz abbr.
- 12 To and —
- 13 Newspaper page
- 14 Inauguration recitation
- 15 Marinara ingredients
- 17 Aware of
- 18 Bonfire residue
- 19 Windows workspace
- 21 Infamous middle name of 1865
- 24 Mainlander's memento
- 25 Ailing
- 26 Massage
- 28 Bar legally
- 32 Carriage
- 34 Actress Dwyer
- 36 Vagrant
- 37 Check recipient
- 39 Heavy weight
- 41 Cattle call

- 42 Stick with a kick
- 44 Window in a roof
- 46 Like Times Square on 12/31
- 50 Purchase
- 51 Wheels of fortune?
- 52 Annie's song
- 56 Maple genus
- 57 Thoroughfare
- 58 Inseparable
- 59 Overstudious sort
- 60 Bohemian
- 61 Pirouette pivot

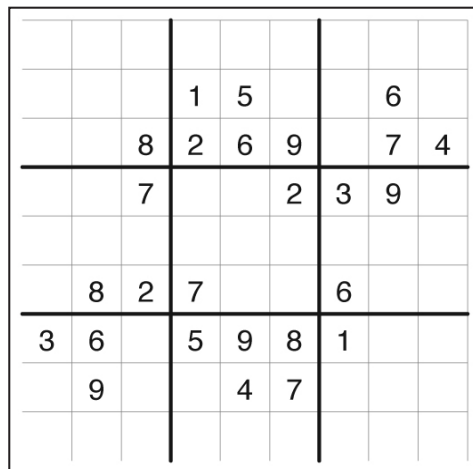
DOWN

- 1 Sternward
- 2 Expert
- 3 Lobster liver
- 4 Whistler subject
- 5 WSJ news item
- 6 Require
- 7 Ford fizzle
- 8 Like 59-Across, probably
- 9 Carry on
- 10 Sgt. Snorkel's dog
- 11 Boutique
- 16 Request
- 20 Get a glimpse of
- 21 Chicken (out)
- 22 Hip bones
- 23 Dine
- 27 Cudgel
- 29 "Nonsense!"
- 30 Reed instrument
- 31 Indigent
- 33 Fox, for one
- 35 Chic, to Austin Powers
- 38 Conclusion
- 40 VIP's opposite
- 43 Aquarium fish
- 45 Capek play
- 46 Talon
- 47 Puerto —
- 48 Portent
- 49 "Let's Make a Deal" choice
- 53 Wrestling surface
- 54 Yoko of music
- 55 Teensy

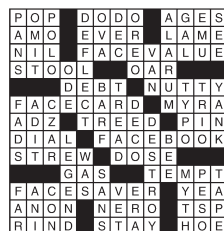
Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



1	6	7	8	4	3	5	2	9
8	4	5	9	2	1	6	7	3
9	3	2	6	7	5	4	1	8
5	9	8	3	6	7	2	4	1
7	2	6	4	1	8	3	9	5
3	1	4	2	5	9	8	6	7
6	7	3	5	9	4	1	8	2
4	8	1	7	3	2	9	5	6
2	5	9	1	8	6	7	3	4

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Halibut with Fresh Tomato Sauce

Submitted by Tammy Roy, St. Thomas, Ont.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 large ripe tomatoes, diced
- 1/4 cup fresh basil, chopped
- 3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1/2 lemon, juice
- 1 tbsp garlic, minced
- 4 halibut steaks
- 3 tbsp vegetable oil
- salt and pepper to taste

METHOD:

1. Combine tomatoes, basil, olive oil, vinegar, lemon juice and garlic in a bowl. Set aside.
2. Rub fish with vegetable oil and season with salt and pepper.

3. Grill fish over medium-high fire about 5 minutes per side or until fish springs back when pushed with a finger.
4. If a barbecue is not available, cook on hot oil in a skillet for 3 minutes on each side and then put the skillet in the oven and cook for an extra 5-10 minutes.
5. Spoon some tomato sauce on 4 plates.
6. Put fish on sauce.

SERVES 4

PREP TIME: 5 MINUTES
COOK TIME: 15 MINUTES



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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20



The Sun enters the most reclusive area of your chart today, so make some time for yourself, if only to sit and think about the direction you want your life to go.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23



Cosmic activity in and around the area of your chart that is said to govern both your work and your health is a sign that it is time to slow down a bit.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21



If you want to reach your life's goal you have to join forces with those who share similar ambitions.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22



With the Sun moving into your fellow Water sign of Pisces today the next few weeks are going to be a lot of fun.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21



With the Sun crossing the important midheaven angle of your chart what you do for other people now will be done for you ten times over.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21



It is of the utmost importance that you face up to your responsibilities, especially on the home front where loved ones are counting on you to take the lead.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22



You are advised not to complain too loudly if you are forced to do something against your will over the next 24 hours.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20



Cosmic activity in the most sociable area of your chart means you can charm the birds out of the trees if you want to over the next few days.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23



Financial issues of one sort or another are about to take center stage and you must not let yourself worry about them.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18



The past few weeks have been hectic and the next few weeks won't see much of a slow down either.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22



Do whatever it takes to stay on the right side of loved ones. Fortunately, this should not be too difficult now that the Sun is moving into your opposite sign.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20



A new solar year begins today and with both Venus, planet of love, and Jupiter, planet of luck, transiting your sign too it promises to be one of the best ever.

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This day in history

1685 — Fort St. Louis is established by a Frenchman at Matagorda Bay thus forming the basis for France's claim to Texas.
1911 — The first official flight with air mail takes place in Allahabad, British India, when Henri Pequet, a 23-year-old pilot, delivers 6,500 letters to Naini, about 10 km away.
1954 — The first Church of Scientology is established in Los Angeles.
1972 — The California Supreme Court in the case of People v. Anderson, 6 Cal.3d 628 invalidates the state's death penalty and commutes the sentences of all death row inmates to life in prison.
2003 — Nearly 200 people die in the Daegu subway fire in South Korea.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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